

REMARKS

Claims 99-105 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,319) with evidence of Harlow et al. (Antibodies, 1988). Specifically, the Office alleges that SEQ ID NO:33-41 are fragments of oligopeptides which are identical to the fragments of the GDNF amino acid sequence. Lin et al. allegedly teach the antibodies that recognize GDNF, and the antibodies of Lin et al. would allegedly bind to a neurturin polypeptide with at least 65% identity to SEQ ID NOs:1, 2, 7 and 8.

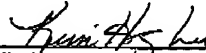
Claim 99 has been amended to delete "at least 65% identity" to SEQ ID NOs:1, 2, 7 and 8. Amended claim 99 recite antibodies that specifically bind to neurturin sequences, SEQ ID NO:1, 2, 7 and 8. The other claims depend from claim 99, and thus, contain all of the limitations of claim 99. Lin et al. do not teach antibodies to neurturin sequences. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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